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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/686,831	10/16/2003	Whiteford J. Stahl	2931-72241	8467
23643	7590	04/07/2004	EXAMINER	
BARNES & THORNBURG 11 SOUTH MERIDIAN INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46204			LAYNO, BENJAMIN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

3712

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/686,831

Applicant(s)

STAHL, WHITEFORD J.

Examiner

Benjamin H. Layno

Art Unit

3712

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 11-16 and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Greenwood et al. 062'

The patent to Greenwood et al. 062' discloses a game of chance comprising a single ply elongated playing piece 50 having a game portion end 52-58 and an identification portion end (left side) having a serial number. A first play combination, "777" second from the top of the game end portion, is printed at a first distance from the serial number. A second play combination, "771" at the very top of the game end portion, is printed at a second distance from the serial number. The second distance is greater than the first distance. The playing piece is initially sealed by folding (crimping) with glue 34 to form an unused position, Fig. 9, with the serial number revealed, and first and second play combinations concealed. The playing piece can then be unfolded at 54 to reveal the first play combination, and then unfolded again at 52 to reveal the second play combination. There is an unused portion between the serial number and first play combination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 3 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenwood et al.

Greenwood's playing piece has four play combinations. The third and fourth play combinations "717" and "177" are the same distance from the serial number as the first and second play combinations, respectively. It is well known in the instant-win pull-tab lottery ticket art to provide more than four play combination numbers to a ticket. In view of such teaching, it would have been obvious to incorporate a fifth play combination to Greenwood's play piece, in order to give a player another chance at winning. The fifth play combination would have been placed either above the first play combination "777" or below the fourth play combination "177". Thus, this fifth play combination would have been separated from the serial number by a third distance that is greater than the second distance.

5. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenwood as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Wilner.

The patent to Wilner teaches that it is known in the instant win lottery game ticket art to seal the playing piece with a band 16. In view of such teaching, it would have been

Art Unit: 3712

obvious to alternatively seal Greenwood's playing piece with a band. This modification would have made Greenwood's playing pieces more secure.

6. Claims 17 and 22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greenwood et al. as applied to claim 16 above, and further in view of Barnes.

The patent to Barnes discloses an elongated lottery ticket 16 having a plurality of play combinations 10. A serial number "373" is printed next to each play combination. In view of such teaching, it would have been obvious to print Greenwood's serial number next to each play combination for security purposes.


7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The patent to Longander discloses an elongated lottery ticket.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin H. Layno whose telephone number is (703) 308-1815. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 1st Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Derris Banks can be reached on (703) 308-1745. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3712

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Benjamin H. Layno
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3712

bhl